

Robert Greene Sterne Edward J. Kessler Jorge A. Goldstein David K.S. Cornwell Tracy-Gene G. Durkin Michele A. Cimbala Michael B. Ray Robert E. Sokohl Eric K. Steffe Michael Q. Lee Steven R. Ludw John M. Covert Robert C. Millonig Lawrence B. Bugaisky Donald J. Featherstone Michael V. Messinger

Judith U. Kim Timothy J. Shea, Jr. Patrick E. Garrett Heidi L. Kraus Edward W. Yee Albert L. Ferro Donald R. Banowit Peter A. Jackman Molly A. McCall Teresa U. Medle Vincent L. Capuano Eldora Ellison Floyd Theodore A. Wood Elizabeth J. Haanes Joseph S. Ostroff Frank R. Cottingham Christine M. Lhulier Rae Lynn Prengaman Jane Shershenovich* Lawrence J. Carroll* George S. Bardmesser Daniel A. Klein* Jason D. Eisenberg Michael D. Specht Andrea J. Kamage Tracy L. Muller* LuAnne M. Yuricek ne M. Yuricek* John J. Figueroa Ann E. Summerfield

Aric W. Ledford*

Registered Patent Agents Karen R. Markowicz Nancy J. Leith Helene C. Carlson Gaby L. Longsworth Matthew J. Dowd Aaron L. Schwartz Mary B. Tung Katrina Y. Pei Quach Bryan L. Skelton Timothy A. Doyle Jennifer R. Mahalingappa Teresa A. Colella Jeffrey S. Lundgren

Victoria S. Rutherford Eric D. Haves

Of Counsel Kenneth C. Bass III Evan R. Smith

*Admitted only in Maryland *Admitted only in Virginia •Practice Limited to Federal Agencies

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WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER: (202) 772-8645 INTERNET ADDRESS: JASONE@SKGF.COM

Art Unit 2851

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

U.S. Utility Patent Application

Application No. 10/667,387; Filed: September 23, 2003

Illumination System With Spatially Controllable Partial Coherence Compensating For Line Width Variances in a Photolithographic System

Inventors: McCullough et al.

1857.1040003 Our Ref:

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

- 1. Preliminary Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.115;
- Letter to PTO Draftsman: Submission of Formal Drawings For New Figs. 11A-2. 11D); and
- 3. Return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036. Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Jason D. Eisenberg Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 43,447

JDE/crf Enclosure



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

McCullough et al.

Appl. No.: 10/667,387

Filed: September 23, 2003

For: Illumination System With Spatially

Controllable Partial Coherence Compensating For Line Width Variances in a Photolithographic

System

Confirmation No.: 9380

Art Unit: 2851

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Atty. Docket: 1857.1040003

Preliminary Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.115

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In advance of prosecution, Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks. This Preliminary Amendment is provided in the following format:

- (A) Each section begins on a separate sheet;
- (B) Starting on a separate sheet, amendments to the specification by presenting replacement paragraphs marked up to show changes made;
- (C) Starting on a separate sheet, a complete listing of all of the claims:
 - in ascending order;
 - with status identifiers; and
 - with markings in the currently amended claims;
- (D) Starting on a separate sheet, the Remarks.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.